requirements, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim at all round development of agriculture. Since agriculture is a State subject, the Union Government are implementing the above-mentioned schemes with the cooperation of the State Governments.

Standing committee for agricultural marketing reforms

1707. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1042 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th November, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Standing Committee of State Ministers and representatives of concerned Central Government Deptt./Agencies has been submitted to Government; and

(b) if so, what are the steps being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Standing committee on Agricultural Marketing Reforms set up under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture met at New Delhi on 29.1.2003 and made the following recommendations:—

(i) The State may appropriately amend, wherever needed, the respective APMC Acts to pave way for promotion of direct marketing and contract farming arrangements and for establishment of competitive agricultural markets/marketing infrastructure in private and cooperative sectors, subject to safeguarding farmers' interests.

(ii) To request Reserve Bank of India/National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development to evolve a simplified procedure in consultation with banks for sanction of pledge loan on the agriculture commodities stored in rural godowns and to ensure that warehousing receipts/godown receipts issued by the operations of rural godowns are acceptable to bankers for providing marketing credit.

(iii) The Central Warehousing Corporation, Ministry of Food, to prepare

a blue print/action plan for the introduction of negotiable werehousing receipt system in the country for agricultural commodities.

(iv) The Central Government may formulate a model legislation on agricultural marketing for guiding the States in implementation of the reforms programme.

The State Governments and the Central Government agencies have been requested to take necessary steps to implement the aforesaid recommendations. A Committee has also been set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture on 5th February 2003 to formulate a model legislation.

Opening Dairies in States

†1708. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE is pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to open dairies in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Rajasthan and other States during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) by when they are likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme Integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP) in Non Operation Flood, Hilly and backward areas. Setting up of dairies in the project areas is also one of the approved components in the scheme. Project proposals under the scheme are prepared by the respective State Governments and approved by Government of India after appraisal. No proposal for setting up of dairies during the current financial year from any of the states is presently pending with Government of India.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.